United Nations A/AC.109/2018/L.5

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
1 June 2018

Original: English

Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair

Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories

The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Having considered the question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories,

Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

Conscious that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and in the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[1]

Recalling paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 72/111 of 7 December 2017, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, where applicable, were an effective means of ascertaining the situation of the peoples of the Territories, and requested the Special Committee to undertake at least one visiting mission a year,

[1] See General Assembly resolution 65/119.

Please recycle

Recalling with satisfaction the work of the Special Committee visiting mission to New Caledonia that took place from 10 to 15 March 2014, and taking note of its report,[2]

Noting the invitation extended by the Premier of Montserrat to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Recalling the two successful missions that were conducted to observe the referendums in Tokelau, in February 2006 and October 2007, at the invitation of New Zealand as the administering Power,[3]

Recalling also the cooperation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in having facilitated the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in April 2006 at the request of the territorial Government,[4]

Recalling further the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Governments of American Samoa and of Anguilla for a visiting mission by the Special Committee,

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[5] with respect to those Territories, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization and the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;[1]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the work of the Special Committee visiting mission to New Caledonia that took place from 12 to 19 March 2018;

3. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee, in collaboration with members of the Bureau, to develop, in a timely manner, for consideration and adoption by the Special Committee, a plan on a case-by-case basis for conducting visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;[6]

4. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate with the United Nations, if they have not yet done so, or to continue to cooperate by facilitating United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in exploring the possibility of undertaking visiting or special missions in furtherance of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly;

6. *Requests* the Chair to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned and to report to the Special Committee on the results of those consultations.

---

[2] A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1.

[3] See A/AC.109/2006/20 and A/AC.109/2007/19.

[4] See A/AC.109/2007/5.

[5] General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

[6] A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas); a dispute also exists between the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom concerning sovereignty over Gibraltar.